

Quality Assurance & Accreditation Awareness Seminar for Environmental Sciences degree program at University of Baltistan- Skardu

October 30, 2024

University of Baltistan, Skardu (UOBS) was established on August 25, 2017, under the “University of Baltistan Order 2016” as a federal public-sector university. Earlier it was a sub-campus of Karakoram International University with four departments including Computer Science, Modern Languages, Business Management and Educational Development since 2011. The Department of Biological Sciences was initiated in 2017 hence increasing the number of departments to five. Currently, the university have 3 faculties including Faculty of Natural Sciences. Department of Environmental Sciences are working under this faculty.

A Quality Assurance & Accreditation Awareness Seminar was conducted for Environmental Sciences at UOBS. Dr. Attarad Ali, Additional Director, QEC, Dr. Salar Ali, HoD, Environmental Sciences, Dr. Alamdar Hussain, Director of Academics, UOBS, Mr. Imtiaz Ahmed, Campus Administrator and other faculty members of UOBS received and welcomed the honorable guests Dr. Abdul Ghaffar, Secretary, Mr. Abdullah, Deputy Director Programs and Mr. Muhammad Faraz Afzal, Assistant Director Coordination, NAEAC.

The seminar was started at 3:15 pm with the recitation of Holy Quran by the student of Environmental Sciences department at university’s Anchan Auditorium which was meticulously organized by Mr. Imtiaz Ahmed, Campus Administrator, with the support of Mr. Zakir (Assistant) and Mr. Akhtar (Cameraman). Dr. Attarad Ali, Additional Director, QEC, UOBS provided an overview of UOBS’s vision, mission, its academic growth and the key role of the Department of Environmental Sciences in addressing environmental challenges in Gilgit-Baltistan and beyond. Dr. Salar Ali, HoD, Environmental Sciences gave a comprehensive presentation on the department’s history, achievements, and vision. After that the guest speaker Dr. Abdul Ghaffar, Secretary NAEAC delivered his talk on “Quality Assurance and Accreditation in Higher Education”. The main objective of this talk was to explain the overall process of accreditation and its significance in maintaining the quality of education. Dr. Abdul Ghaffar introduced the NAEAC, explained the evaluation criteria of accreditation process which comprised of 8 main criteria and 73 sub criteria. He also explained the impact of accreditation on quality improvement employing the data of last 14 years. After the seminar, question answer session was held where many queries including the changing the department name from Environmental Sciences to Earth and Environmental Sciences were discussed in depth.

The seminar was attended by Campus Administrator, Additional Director QEC, Director Academics, all faculty members and students of Environmental Sciences. Dr. Alamdar Hussain, Director Academics, UOBS, delivered a heartfelt vote of thanks on behalf of the university administration. He conveyed a message from the Vice Chancellor, who expressed deep gratitude for the NAEAC’s visit, recognizing it as a milestone in advancing the academic standards of UOBS and assured that the administration will fulfill the accreditation requirements of NAEAC to maintain the high quality of education.

